

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	Examiner:
Wu et al)	Darryl J. Collins
Serial No: 10/032,310)	Group Art Unit: 2873
Confirmation No.: 6534)	Dated: Aug. 19, 2003
Filed: 12/21/2001)	
For: COLLMATING DEVICE AND)	
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME)	

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Wei Fei Chung

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Honorable Director of Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated July 29, 2003, kindly
amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the accompanying
remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which
begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): A collimating device comprising:

a Graded Index lens;

a filter; and

a tube comprising a first receiving portion and a second receiving portion, wherein the Graded Index lens is secured in the first receiving portion, and the filter is secured in the second receiving portion, a length of the first receiving portion is less than a length of the Graded Index lens and a length of the second receiving portion is equal to a corresponding length of the filter.

Claim 2 (original): The collimating device as described in claim 1, wherein the first receiving portion defines a cylindrical cavity therein, and the second receiving portion defines a generally rectangular cavity therein.

Claim 3 (original): The collimating device as described in claim 2, wherein the Graded Index lens is secured in the cylindrical cavity, and the filter is secured in the rectangular cavity.

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Claim 4 (original) The collimating device as described in claim 1, wherein the Graded Index lens has an inner end face contacting an inside surface of the filter.

Claims 5-7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (original): The collimating device as described in claim 1, wherein the Graded Index lens has an obliquely ground and polished end disposed outside the first receiving portion of the tube.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A method for making a collimating device, the method comprising the steps of:

- preparing a Graded Index lens, and coating the Graded Index lens with epoxy film;

- preparing a tube having a first receiving portion and a second receiving portion, and inserting the Graded Index lens into the first receiving portion;

- baking the tube with the Graded Index lens to cure the epoxy film;

- preparing a filter, inserting the filter into the second receiving portion, and adjusting a position of the filter to optically correspond to the Graded Index lens; and

- applying epoxy between a periphery of the filter and the second receiving portion, and baking the epoxy to cure the epoxy and thereby fasten the filter in the tube.

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Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method as described in claim 9, wherein the first receiving portion defines a cylindrical cavity therein, the second receiving portion defines a generally rectangular cavity therein, and the Graded Index lens and the filter are respectively secured in the cylindrical cavity and in the rectangular cavity.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method as described in claim 9, wherein the Graded Index lens has an inner end face contacting an inside surface of the filter.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): The collimating device as described in claim 3, wherein a length of the rectangular cavity is equal to a length of the filter.

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REMARKS

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-8 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ryall (USPN 6382841).

In response to this rejection, Applicant has deleted claims 5-7 and 12-13 without prejudice.

Regarding claim 1, a collimating device includes a Graded Index lens, a filter, and a tube comprising a first receiving portion and a second receiving portion, wherein the Graded Index lens is secured in the first receiving portion, and the filter is secured in the second receiving portion, a length of the first receiving portion is less than a length of the Graded Index lens and a length of the second receiving portion is equal to a corresponding length of the filter.

The Examiner argues that the second receiving portion of Ryall brings equal to a corresponding length of the filter (i.e., fully received) (column 10, lines 25-27) as claimed in amended claim 1 and newly added claim 14. However, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner at this point of view.

As shown in FIGS. 5B and 6A, **Applicant sees no equal length between the cavity and the filter.** The fact is that the length of the filter is a little longer than, other than equal to, that of the second receiving portion (cavity). The Examiner's assertion is mainly based upon the statement of "fully received" in lines 25-25 in

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column 10. Anyhow, such description does NOT result in equal between the cavity and the filter. It is only to refer to intimateness between these two engaged parts, NOT dimensional equal length thereof. *If the term of "fully received" implies the "equal length" thereof, how could the GRIN lens (300) be also the so-called "fully received" in the corresponding socket/cavity of the bonding collar (200) mentioned in the SAME sentence, while the GRIN lens (300) in fact essentially extends out of the collar (200) with a very long distance?*

Understandably, only the equal length of both the filter and the corresponding cavity may guarantee the filter to be fully embedded for protection in the cavity under the condition that the inner end face of the GRIN lens supportably contacts both the inside surface of the filter and the shoulder of the outer tube (26) as shown in FIG. 3 of the instant application. Ryall can **NOT** satisfy the claimed limitations and achieve the advantageous result of the instant invention.

Therefore, collimating device defined by claim 1 is different from Ryall. Accordingly, claim 1 is novel and should be in a condition for allowance.

Claims 2-4, 8, and 14 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and incorporate more features therein, so they are also novel over the cited references and should be in a condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 4, the Graded Index lens has an inner end face **contacting** an inside surface of the filter. However, in Ryall, there is a film between the GRIN lens and the filter. The end face of the GRIN lens does not directly contact the inside surface of the filter. Therefore, claim 4 is novel over Ryall.

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Regarding claim 8, the Graded Index lens has an obliquely ground and polished end disposed outside the first receiving portion of the tube. Applicant cannot see such a feature in Ryall. Therefore, claim 8 is novel over Ryall, and should be in a condition for allowance.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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